

CLAIMS

1. A chewing gum composition including an abrasive filler substance, characterised in that the said abrasive filler substance is encapsulated in microspheres of cross-linked alginate. .
2. A chewing gum composition according to Claim 1, characterised in that the said microspheres have an equivalent average diameter lying between 0.6 and 1.5 mm.
3. A chewing gum composition according to Claim 1, characterised in that the said microspheres have an equivalent average diameter lying between 1 and 1.2 mm.
4. A chewing gum composition according to any of Claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the said microspheres are present in quantities from 1% to 10% by weight referred to the weight of the chewing gum.
5. A chewing gum composition according to any preceding claim, characterised in that the said abrasive substance is chosen from abrasive silica, calcium carbonate, talc and mixtures thereof.
6. A chewing gum composition according to Claim 5, characterised in that the said abrasive filler substance is present in particles having dimensions, expressed as equivalent average diameter, lying between 2 and 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .
7. A chewing gum composition according to Claim 6, characterised in that the said abrasive filler substance has a particle size lying between 6 and 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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8. A chewing gum composition according to any preceding claim, characterised in that the said microspheres comprise from 80% to 99% by weight of abrasive filler substance.

9. A chewing gum composition according to any preceding claim, characterised in that the said microspheres further include ingredients chosen from flavourings, sweeteners, active agents and mixtures thereof.

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